



State of Utah
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF OIL, GAS AND MINING

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December 21, 1999

Ms. Paula Doughty
Manager, Environmental Compliance
Kennecott Utah Copper Corporation
8315 West 3595 South
P.O. Box 6001
Magna, Utah 84044-6001

Re: New Ore Rail Reload Facility - Waste Rock Placement In Bingham Canyon, Kennecott Utah Copper Corporation (KUCC), Bingham Canyon Mine, M/035/002, Salt Lake County, Utah

Dear Ms. Doughty:

Thank you for the recent notification regarding the relocation of mine support facilities within the Bingham Canyon permit area. Relocating the **ore rail reload operation** outside of the Bingham pit and dumping waste rock into areas already impacted by other KUCC mine operations are not considered significant changes to the approved large mine notice. The reduction of waste rock disturbance in Dry Fork Canyon and the placement (and consolidation) of waste rock in the previously impacted Bingham Canyon area appears to be advantageous from both a reclamation and operations point of view.

Although these specific activities within the approved Bingham Canyon permit area do not constitute a significant change to the approved notice, we appreciate receiving updates to the mine operating plan for activities of this magnitude. We have no technical review comments on this update of KUCC's mining operations at this time. However, because there is little information in the current Bingham Canyon mining and reclamation plan describing the existing ore rail reload facility, we ask that you please provide the following supplemental information:

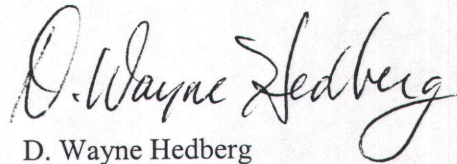
1. A general written description/explanation of the new facility that will be relocated and/or reconstructed in Bingham Canyon. Please describe how the ore will be transported to the new location as well.
2. An updated surface facilities map showing the basic layout and type of structures comprising this facility would also be appreciated. This information will be used to update/supplement the existing notice on file with our office.

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Again we appreciate you keeping us informed as to the status of the ongoing mining and operational changes at the Bingham Canyon Mine. Thank you for your continued cooperation. Please contact me or Tony Gallegos at 538-5286 and 538-5267 respectively, if you have questions concerning this request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "D. Wayne Hedberg". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name and title.

D. Wayne Hedberg
Permit Supervisor
Minerals Reclamation Program

jb
cc: Mary Ann Wright, Associate Director
Tony Gallegos, DOGM
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